In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-78. Canceled.

79. (Previously presented) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence which encodes or is complementary to a sequence which encodes an ecdysteroid receptor (EcR) polypeptide that binds ecdysone, wherein the encoded EcR polypeptide consists essentially of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:10.

80. (Previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 79, wherein said sequence consists essentially of the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:9.

81. (Previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 79, wherein the isolated nucleic acid molecule further encodes an EcR partner protein (USP polypeptide) of a *Myzus persicae* EcR heterodimer, which USP polypeptide consists essentially of an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:12.

82. (Previously presented) the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 81, wherein the USP polypeptide is encoded by the nucleic acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:11.

83. (Previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 81, wherein the USP polypeptide is identical to that encoded by cDNA present in plasmid pMpUSP (AGAL Accession No. NM99/04568).

6 84. (Previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim ~~79~~; wherein said polypeptide consists of an amino acid sequence encoded by a cDNA present in the plasmid deposited under AGAL Accession No. NM99/04567.

7 85. (Currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence which encodes or is complementary to a sequence which encodes an ecdysteroid receptor (EcR) polypeptide that binds ~~ecdysone~~, ecdysone when said EcR polypeptide is in association with a USP polypeptide, wherein said EcR polypeptide ~~consisting~~ consists of an amino acid sequence having at least 60% amino acid sequence identity to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:10, ~~wherein~~ with the proviso that said encoded EcR polypeptide is not a *Drosophila melanogaster* EcR polypeptide.

8 86. (Previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim ~~85~~ 7, wherein said EcR polypeptide consists of an amino acid sequence having at least 80% amino acid sequence identity to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:10.

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9 87. (Previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim ~~86~~ 8, wherein said EcR polypeptide consists of an amino acid sequence having at least 90% amino acid sequence identity to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:10.

10 88. (Previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim ~~85~~ 7, wherein the EcR polypeptide is derived from a member of the genus Myzus.

11 89. (Previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim ~~85~~ 7, wherein the insect is *Myzus persicae*.

12 90. (Previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim ~~85~~ 7, wherein the isolated nucleic acid molecule further encodes and EcR partner protein (USP polypeptide) of the *M.*

persicae EcR polypeptide, wherein the USP polypeptide consists essentially of an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:12.

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~~91.~~ (Previously presented) A genetic construct comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim ~~79~~, wherein said nucleotide sequence is operably linked to a promoter sequence.

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~~92.~~ (Previously presented) The genetic construct of claim ~~91~~, wherein said promoter sequence is a MMTV, SV40, polyhedrin or p10 promoter sequence.

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~~93.~~ (Previously presented) A cell comprising the genetic construct of claim ~~91~~.

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D1 ~~94.~~ (Previously presented) The cell of claim ~~93~~, wherein the cell further comprises a nucleic acid molecule encoding an ecdysteroid receptor partner protein (USP polypeptide) which is expressed in said cell.

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~~95.~~ (Previously presented) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence which encodes or is complementary to a sequence which encodes a ecdysteroid receptor (EcR) polypeptide, wherein said ecdysteroid receptor polypeptide is not from *Drosophila melanogaster*, wherein said EcR polypeptide binds ecdysone, and wherein said nucleotide sequence is selected from the group consisting of:

(i) a nucleotide sequence having at least 60% identity to the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:9, or a complementary nucleotide sequence thereto;

(ii) a nucleotide sequence that hybridises under at high stringency conditions to the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:9 or to a complementary nucleotide sequence thereto, wherein high stringency conditions are a hybridisation and/or a wash carried out in 0.1xSSC-0.2xSSC buffer, 0.1% (w/v) SDS at a temperature of at least 55°C;

(iii) a nucleotide sequence having at least 60% identity to a nucleotide sequence of a cDNA present in the plasmid deposited under AGAL Accession No. NM99/04567; and

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(iv) a nucleotide sequence that is capable of hybridising under high stringency conditions to a cDNA present in the plasmid deposited under AGAL Accession No. NM99/04567, wherein high stringency conditions are a hybridisation and/or a wash carried out in 0.1xSSC-0.2xSSC buffer, 0.1% (w/v) SDS at a temperature of at least 55°C.